

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TEGUCI 04374 122209Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----095590 122210Z /73

O 122117Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1522
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T TEGUCIGALPA 4374

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY VAKY FROM CHARGE

EO 11652 XGDS-3
TAGS: PINT, NU, HO
SUBJECT: CENTRAL AMERICAN MEDIATION INITIATIVE

REF: (A) TEGUCIGALPA 4345, (B) STATE 229639

1. COSTA RICAN AMBASSADOR FEDERICO ALVAREZ DROPPED BY EMBASSY LATE MORNING SEPT 12 TO INFORM US VENEZUELA HAD AGREED TO A WEEK'S POSTPONEMENT OF VOTE IN OAS AT CARAZO'S REQUEST, AND THAT HONDURAN REPRESENTATIVE HAD BEEN GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS TO SUPPORT GOV MOTION.

2. NEVERTHELESS, ALVAREZ EXPRESSED HIS VERY SERIOUS CONCERN THAT TIME FOR ACTION SLIPPING AWAY, EVEN WITH POSTPONEMENT. HE SAID GOH HAD NOT YET NAMED EMISSARY TO SOMOZA AND VOICED OPINION GOH HAS NOT GRASPED URGENCY OF ISSUE. ASKED IF PERHAPS NEW GOVERNMENT WAS NOT FOCUSING ON PROBLEM, ALVAREZ REPLIED, "NO, THEY DON'T

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UNDERSTAND IT."

3. FOREIGN MINISTER PALMA WHO ONLY GOVERNMENT LEADER WITH PREVIOUS DIPLOMATIC EXPERIENCE HAS BEEN UNAVAILABLE SINCE EARLY MONDAY DUE CABINET MEETINGS. ACCORDING ALVAREZ, HE NOT EVEN AVAILABLE TO VICE FOREIGN MINISTER HERNANDEZ. CHARGE CALLING HERNANDEZ NOW TO FOLLOW-UP COSTA RICAN VISIT AND URGE HONDURAN SUPPORT FOR CENTRAL AMERICAN

INITIATIVE, AS WELL AS APPOINTMENT OF EMISSARY. MEANTIME, AMBASSADOR
ALVAREZ IS SEEKING TO SEE FOREIGN MINISTER TO PLEA FOR TIMELY ACTION.
AMBASSADOR ALVAREZ IS ANXIOUS THAT WE NOT GET AHEAD OF HIM IN GOCR
APPROACHES TO GOH AND HAS PROMISED INFORM US PROMPTLY OF HIS APPROACH
TO FONMIN PALMA.
RONDON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERVENTION, POLITICAL SITUATION, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978TEGUCI04374
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780371-0418
Format: TEL
From: TEGUCIGALPA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780974/aaaacjrr.tel
Line Count: 68
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9de4df51-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 TEGUCIGALPA 4345, 78 STATE 229639
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 jul 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1461342
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CENTRAL AMERICAN MEDIATION INITIATIVE
TAGS: PINT, PINS, NU, HO, OAS
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9de4df51-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014